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FORMAL
TRADITION

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2020

FORMAL
TRADITION

suit /su:t/ noun: a set of outer clothes made of the same fabric and designed to be worn together, typically consisting of a jacket and trousers or a jacket and skirt.

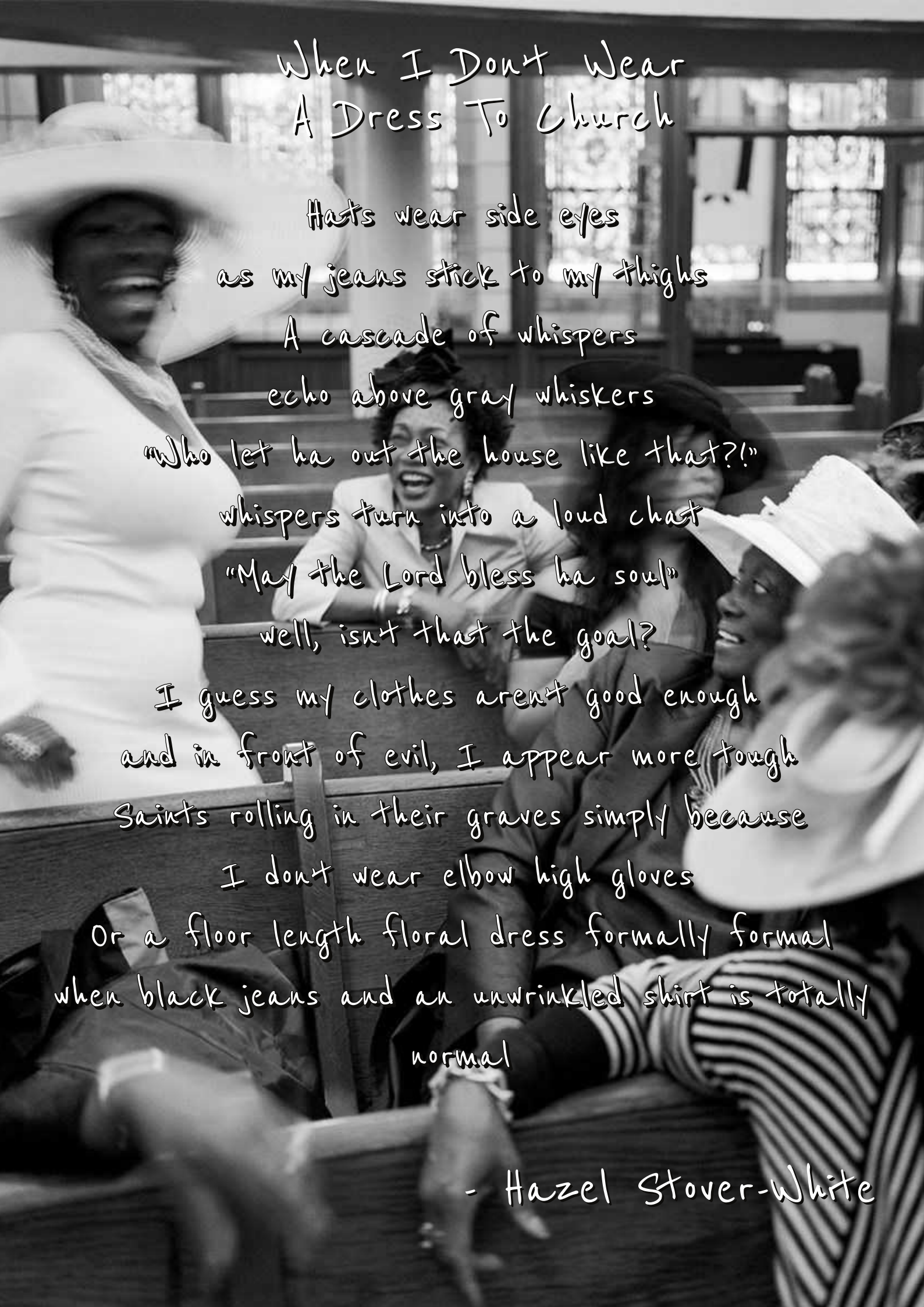
formal /ˈfɔ:m(ə)l/ adjective: done in accordance with convention or etiquette; suitable for or constituting an official or important occasion











When I Don't Wear A Dress To Church

Hats wear side eyes
as my jeans stick to my thighs
A cascade of whispers
echo above gray whiskers
"Who let ha out the house like that?!"
whispers turn into a loud chat
"May the Lord bless ha soul"
well, isn't that the goal?
I guess my clothes aren't good enough
and in front of evil, I appear more tough
Saints rolling in their graves simply because
I don't wear elbow high gloves
Or a floor length floral dress formally formal
when black jeans and an unwrinkled shirt is totally normal

- Hazel Stover-White



Designerand Knitwear Student Antonia Paris, of TONITEXTURES, focuses on using colour and texture to communicatstories and narratives that inspire her. This suit jacket - originally a school blazer - was upcycled for one of her earlier projects titled ‘Conflict’, in order to represent the order and chaos that manifests in the mental trauma of soldiers.



The front design utilises royal and military influences to present a sense of uniformity and normality , but the poppies that overlap into its front lapels originate from a hidden sea of red textiles that lie on the back of the jacket. She aims to use this duality to show the vast amount of memories and thoughts we often conceal as well as the destructiveness of this nature. You can find her work on Instagram toni.textures.


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This Year!




PARMA A.C.




adidas
PARMA A.C.
malat



Suit of a Man With No Home, and A Suit of a Homeless Man

I have got my hair done
I have got my suits tailored by the finest
I have got my shoes that shines with a gleam of the diamonds matching my wifes hand
I have got my job
I have got my house
I have got my country,
As I walked down the road to
my chauffeur who is driving a luxurious car
I see a man
A homeless man
He's walking around in a suit
Looks of mine but dirty and underserved
He stared into my eyes
I gazed back into his
How dare he
How dare he wear something of my stature
I entered my car
I drive off as he stares the end down like a dog wanting water

Pitiful

I entered a place
I entered a place filled with the same hair as mine
I entered a place filled with the same shine to my shoes
I have my job
I have my house
I have my country
But I dont have his suit

- bozno

The progression of formal wear in eras.
Essie Francis

Dressing c*nty to events or your corporate work is the new norm.
Now, not saying everyone should get their bits out, HR would have a field day with that….
But in the era of social media provoking individuality and as time passes by, people are incorporating their own twist into formal wear.

Fashion is one of many outlets of self-expression, so why should that be limited wherever you go? Speaking of looking your hottest wherever you are, an icon comes into mind,
Elle Woods from *Legally Blonde 2001*

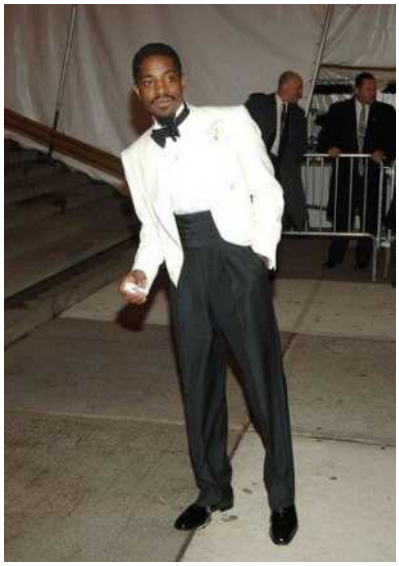


Fanpop

Elle was a girl who loved fashion and loved law. From her constantly being dressed in hot pink *Chanel* suits, furry collars and bedazzled shoes, it never took away from her ability to do her job while still sticking to the dress code. Regardless of her love for clothes, she had her dream job as a lawyer. She is the blueprint of a hot corporate babe.

Furthermore, with the rise of tiktok widely used by GenZ, different aesthetics have been popularised such as y2k, grunge and preppy. People have adapted their own style and unapologetically showed that in their everyday life. The reason why now, the outdated code of uniform is applied less in most places, is because as the years pass by there are new eras and people who subvert the rules and standards that make people indistinguishable, (like how they got women to wear them rock hard corsets back in the day) .

Andre 3000, Met Gala 2005



On the other hand, mens formal wear has had a stable trend throughout the years. Nowadays styles come in and out from recent years. Like the soulja boy type beat, loose high waist trousers and oversized blazers to the *007* slim, smart and fitted look.

Today, fashion is much more gender neutral, allowing any gender to be comfortable in how they present themselves. In older eras, you had two choices, trousers or skirts. Naturally as time progressed, that became another reason why the patriarchy sucked. Gender neutral dressing birthed creativity and iconic looks for the people.



Getty images

This occurrence had everyone gagged. These beautiful people *Zendaya* and *Michael B Jordan* wore the same fitted charcoal *Berluti* suit. *Zendaya* is known to wear a good pantsuit and she kills it every time because of how she wears it. She shows how comfortable she is within her femininity to wear conventional masculine attire. The more people disregard rules of how specific genders are supposed to dress, more styles will emerge in future eras.

An honourable mention of just how formal wear has progressed and allows your own little tweak, *Nicki Minaj* literally wore a baseball cap with her all-black *Burberry* look to the 2022 *Met Gala*.



Getty images

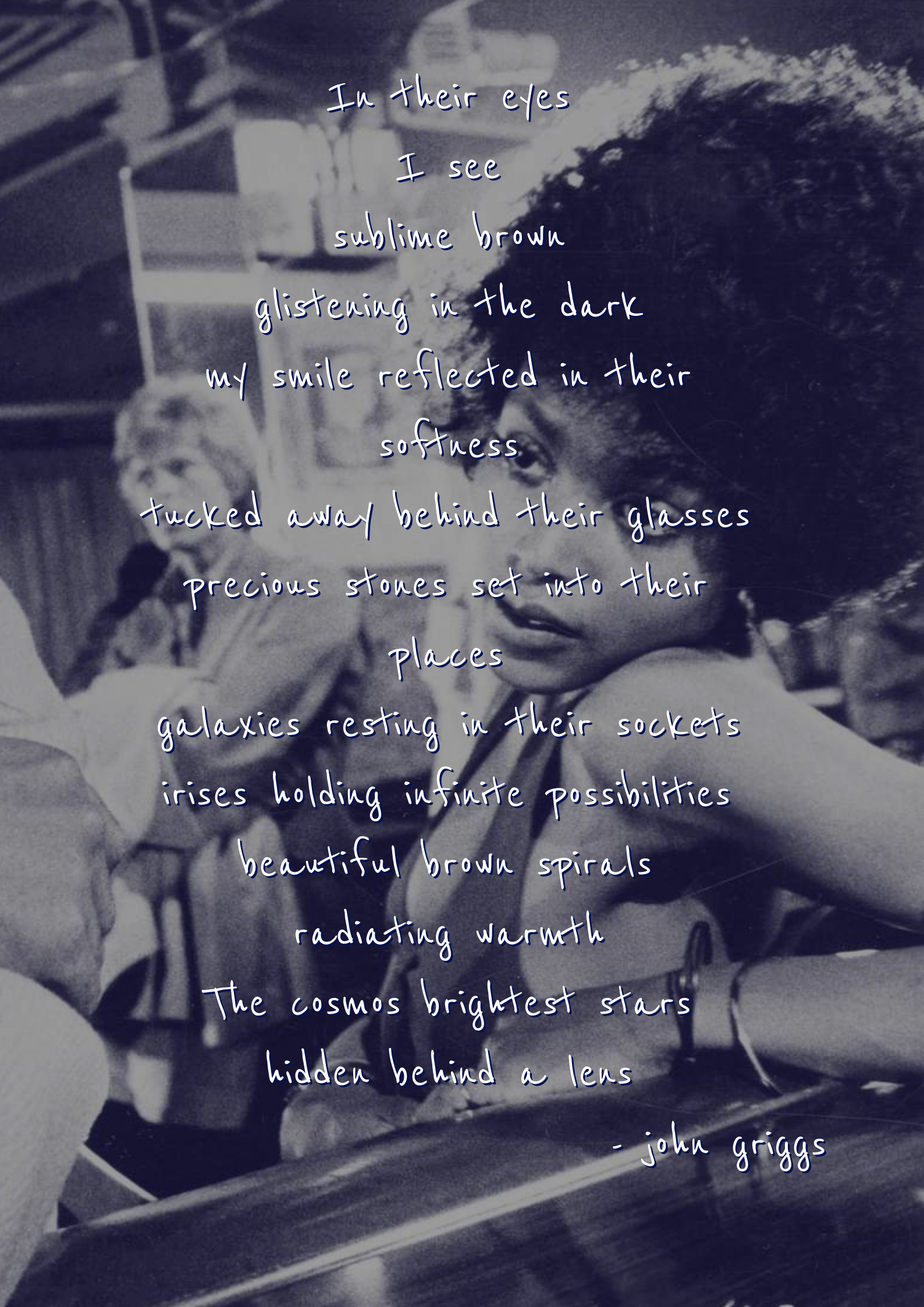
Ultimately, it is agreed that formal wear still has its principles of smartness with a little bit of flare. But as time progresses, new eras are introduced. Everybody wants to keep up with the times. Who knows, maybe in a few years lawyers will be allowed to wear sweats to court and no one would bat an eye.


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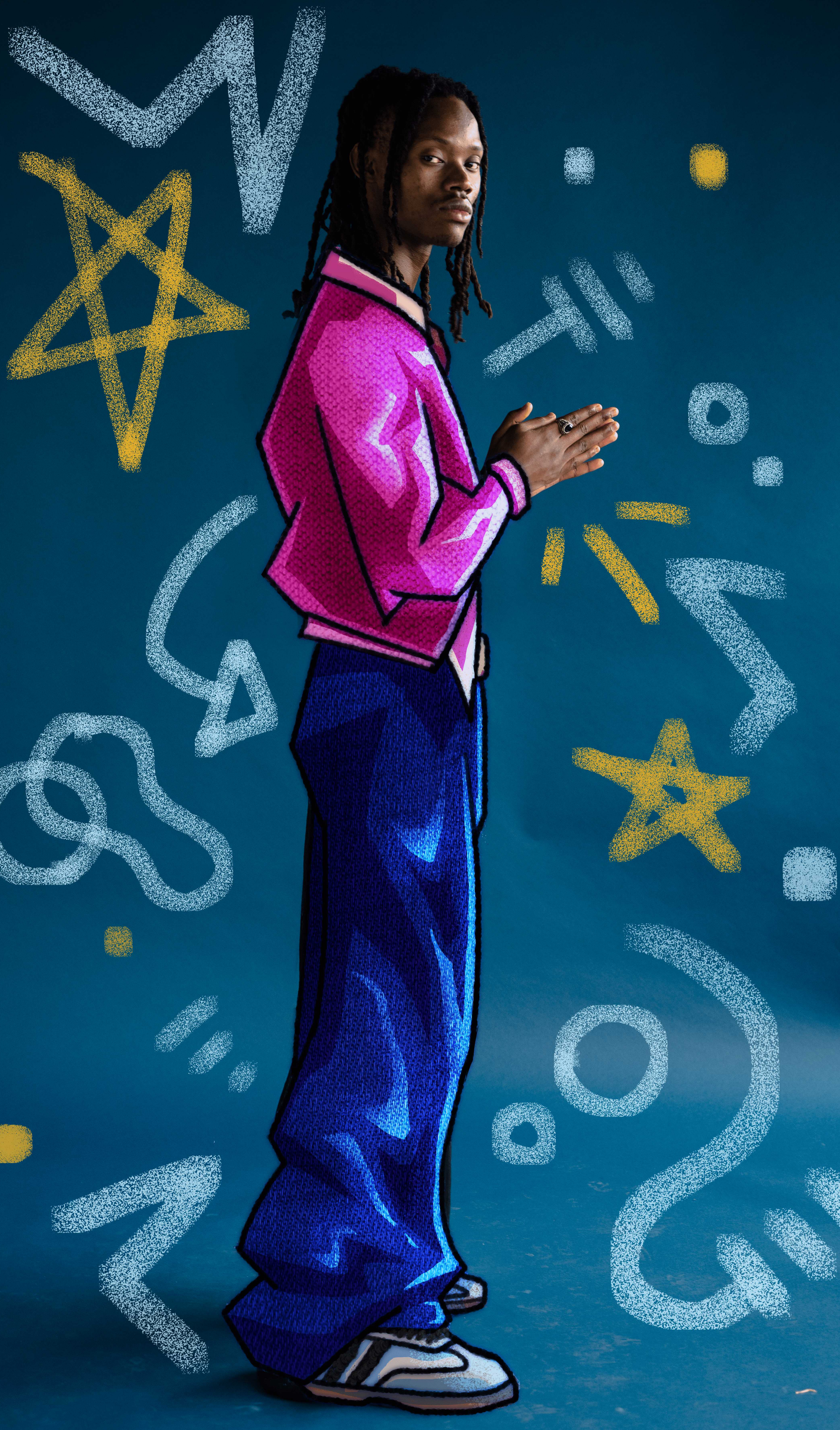
In their eyes
I see
sublime brown
glistening in the dark
my smile reflected in their
softness
tucked away behind their glasses
precious stones set into their
places
galaxies resting in their sockets
irises holding infinite possibilities
beautiful brown spirals
radiating warmth
The cosmos brightest stars
hidden behind a lens

- john griggs










PARMA A.C.
parmalat










SOMALIA


parmala
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O.G.
KING
OF
THE
HILL


SoLost






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I was born with vibrant eyes. Eyes that do not belong in the structured world. One's that only belong to dreaming children yet to grow up in the land of black suits and crimson ties. To adhere, to grow, meant to ignore the world. It meant ignoring the yellow-calling leaves. The pleating flowers beg for our love and all we have to return is a softened "No."

So then life grew dim and the colorful world got built over and trampled. The grey street corners, the lifeless white lamps that flash deep grimaces onto the stern worn eyes of the people in the streets. They walk each day, flattered by nothing, longing for nothing, living for nothing. I am not surprised now why we so easily reject the vibrant nature provided to us. It flicks some gleam in our eyes we forgot about. Something we are angry to not have anymore.

When I put on my yellow shirt and shoes, I am saying that I will be the flower. I will be the petals and vines. When I put on orange I am saying let me be the sun, the nature we have ignored. I am saying to look. My bright clothes only stand out in your world. My colors would blend perfectly into the autumn grass and trees. So please do not let the world go grey. Do not wring out the soul of this place - I like it very much.

- Ten





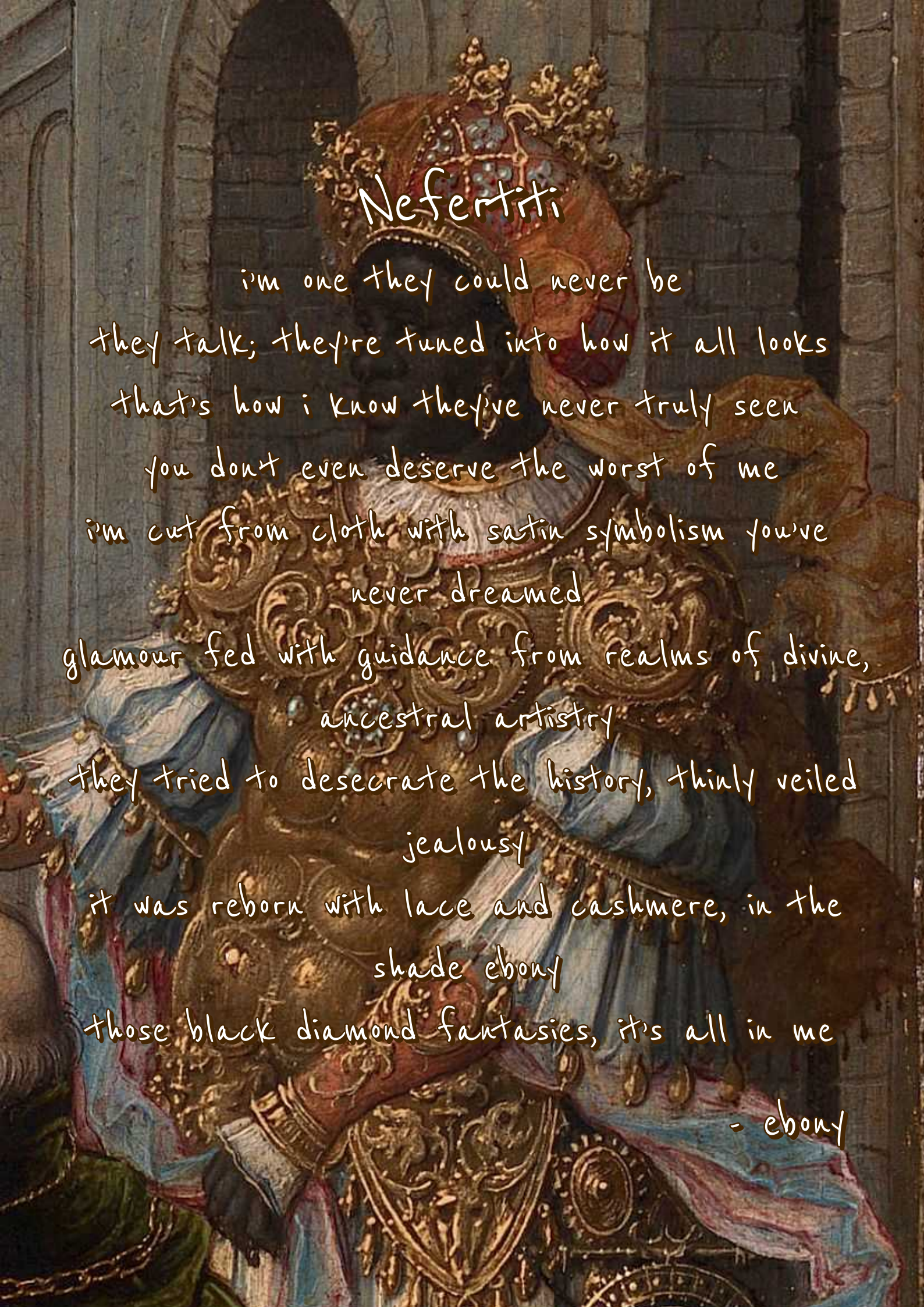

LIGHT
WEIGHT


SKUNK CREW







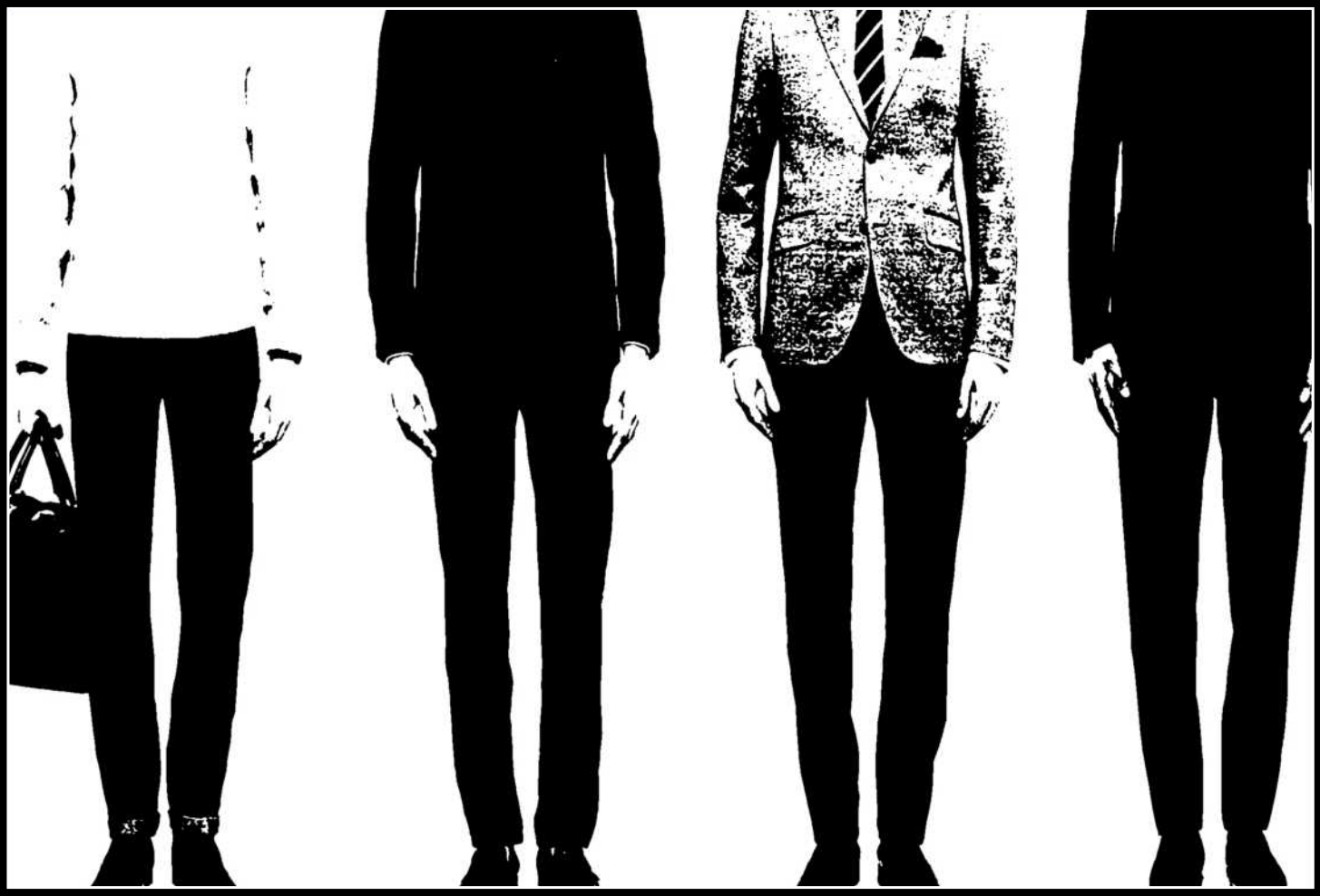


Nefertiti

i'm one they could never be
they talk; they're tuned into how it all looks
that's how i know they've never truly seen
you don't even deserve the worst of me
i'm cut from cloth with satin symbolism you've never dreamed
glamour fed with guidance from realms of divine, ancestral artistry
they tried to desecrate the history, thinly veiled jealousy
it was reborn with lace and cashmere, in the shade ebony
those black diamond fantasies, it's all in me

- ebony

THERE IS NO FORMULA TO FORMALITY



BREAK THE GLASS CEILING

THERE IS POWER IN BEING YOURSELF

NO ONE HAS ANY RULE OVER YOU

